

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected Claims 21, 23, 24, 30, and 32-34 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knight et al. (USPN 676506) in view of Karasavas (USPN 5133556), Sellar (USPN 5662530), and Tolotti (USPN 3563548). The Examiner has further rejected Claim 35 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knight et al. (USPN 676506) in view of Karasavas (USPN 5133556), Sellar (USPN 5662530), Tolotti (USPN 3563548), and Goranson et al. (USPN 3420529)

In Paper No. 9 mailed 06/11/02, the Examiner indicated that the Claim 38 was allowed, and Claims 21, 22, 25, 30, 31, and 34 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

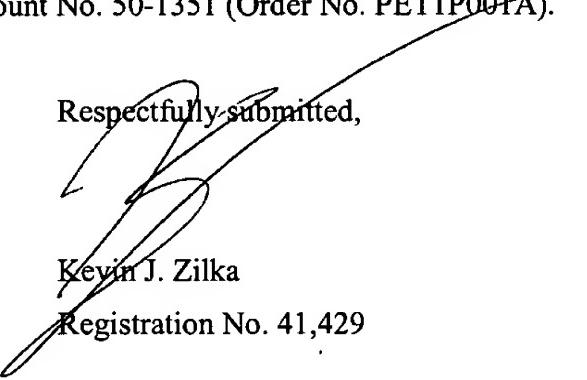
In the spirit of expediting the prosecution of the present application and bringing closure to this matter, applicant has added Claims 39-48, which represent the identical subject matter of Claim 38; and Claims 21, 22, 25, 30, 31, and 34 amended in the manner set forth above.

Thus, an allowance of all pending independent claims is respectfully requested. By virtue of the dependence of the remaining claims, such claims are also deemed allowable.

In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 505-5100. If any fees are due in

connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1351 (Order No. PET1P001A).

Respectfully submitted,

  
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